

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Bulletin



Friday October 1 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

The nights are definitely drawing in and the weather has taken a turn for the windier and wetter, although this has certainly not dampened spirits at Maidenhill.

Our nursery class children always have free flow play opportunities between indoors and outdoors and I am always heartened by the number of children who love nothing more than being outside, rain or shine. Our whole pedagogy of learning and teaching is about children interacting with each other and the environment and outdoor learning always creates the optimum context for this to happen. Real resilience means building a den or experimenting with water wheels and tunnels whilst standing up to a battering from the Maidenhill weather and not letting it bother you one bit!

The building design in P1-7 doesn't quite allow for the same 'free-flow' but we will always encourage classes to get outside as much as possible. If you make sure your child is for the weather, we will try our best (although it is always a challenge) to ensure they don't discard various of items of clothing in the MUGA, playground, lunch hall/ anywhere really!

Flu Vaccination Programme

The NHS will be conducting their flu vaccination programme for children in P1-7 in the school on Monday. For most children this will be a simple nasal spray which will take a matter of seconds. In fact, the whole process was extremely quick last year with everyone vaccinated before the morning interval. The NHS staff coordinate all the permissions they have and are responsible for the organisation of the day.

Some parents may feel it better to talk to their child about this in advance; others may think it best for it just to happen. Either way, I am absolutely confident that the children of Maidenhill will demonstrate the usual no-fuss attitude that has characterised them over the last two years.

Parent Consultation Meetings- P1-7

Our first round of parent consultation meetings for parents/ carers of children in P1-7 will take place next week. By now you should have booked your appointment slot using our online system and left your one preferred contact number. At your allotted time, our teachers will telephone the number you indicated, trying once more if the call is not answered first time. Unfortunately we will not be able to receive incoming calls from 3.30 onwards as our phones will all be in full use. **Please note, in the event that parents/ carers of children in our nursery class urgently need to make contact with our nursery staff from 3.30-6.00 Monday October 4-Thursd ay October 7 they should telephone 07539301447.**

Logistical considerations and the importance of ensuring our teachers still have sufficient time during the week to plan and prepare learning and teaching for our children mean that each parental consultation meeting must stick strictly to 10 minutes. We ask for your cooperation in this as you will appreciate that only

one conversation dominating more of the teachers' time can knock out the arrangements for everyone else. Please don't be offended if a teacher has to bring your conversation to a prompt close.

Maidenhill Parliament

This year will see the launch of our new Maidenhill Parliament, which will replace our previous Pupil Council. The Parliament is designed to bring together a whole range of different stakeholders across the school community and involve them in our school improvement planning. Already our classes from P3-P7 have been running election campaigns for their MMP (Member of the Maidenhill Parliament) and the following representatives have been elected so far:

P3alpha- tbc
P3bravo- Sofia
P4alpha- Tanvi
P4bravo- Charlotte
P5alpha- Ayra
P5bravo- Lana
P6- Harry
P7- Abdullah

Congratulations and well done to everyone who ran an election campaign. The aim is for the parliament to meet once a month to discuss a range of issues. At times we will co-opt further representatives from our nursery class-P2 children, our staff team, parents and community members depending on the topics for discussion and debate.

Diary

Monday October 4- NHS Flu Immunisation Programme

Monday October 4 -Thursday October 7- Parent Consultation Meetings (by telephone)

Friday October 8- School closes for October Week holiday at 3pm/ Nursery Class remains open to 6pm

Monday October 18- In-service day

Tuesday October 19- Children return

Friday October 29- Hallowe'en Fun Day (more details to follow)

Take care,

Alasdair McDonald
Head Teacher